

Welcome to the Probate and Family Court Department of the Massachusetts Trial Court.

Many Probate and
Family Law matters
involve complex and
valuable legal rights.
You should always
speak with an attorney
before filing any papers.

# LOOKING FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE?

This booklet contains a list of Lawyer Referral Services, Free Legal Resources and Legal Aid Agencies in

FRANKLIN COUNTY

# LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICES

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MASSACHUSETTS BAR ASSOCIATION

LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Referrals to private attorneys, including reduced fee panel.

Call (617) 654-0400 or (800) 392-6164

e-mail: lrs@massbar.org To register online, visit

www.massbar.org/lawhelp/

# BOSTON BAR ASSOCIATION LAWYER REFERRAL SERVICE

Referrals to private attorneys, including reduced fee panel. Serves mainly Greater Boston, inside Route 495, but will provide referrals throughout Massachusetts.

Call (617) 742-0625 or e-mail: lrs@bostonbar.org For more information, visit www.bostonbar.org/lrs/index

#### Franklin County Lawyer Referral Service

Referrals to private attorneys in Franklin County. Call (413) 773-9839

### LEGAL RESOURCES

The Massachusetts Trial Court provides free legal resources

# MASSACHUSETTS JUDICIAL BRANCH WEB SITE

The official web site of the Judicial Branch includes judicial profiles, addresses, phone numbers and directions for courthouses as well as other useful information about the Trial Court. Click on www.state.ma.us/courts

#### Franklin Law Library

Courthouse, 425 Main Street Greenfield, MA 01301

The Massachusetts Trial Court Law Libraries are open to the public, providing legal reference services and legal research assistance. The library is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Ask at the Registry of Probate for the Law Libraries pamphlet which provides more details. Call (413) 772-6580 or visit the Law Libraries web site www.lawlib.state.ma.us

Free resources offered by the Massachusetts Bar Association

#### Tel-Law

Tel-Law is a collection of recorded messages designed to answer basic questions about the law. Tel-Law is fully automated and you can access it 24 hours/day by calling (617) 338-0669. (Toll charges may apply)

#### WEB SITE

The MBA's web site offers answers to basic legal questions. Point your browser to www.massbar.org

#### DIAL-A-LAWYER

The first Wednesday of every month you can get free legal help, by telephone, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Lawyer volunteers staff phones to answer your questions.

Call (617) 338-0610

## LEGAL SERVICE AGENCIES

These resources are available only to very low income and elderly individuals

#### FRANKLIN COUNTY BAR ADVOCATES

Provides referrals to private attorneys to represent low income children, elders and victims of domestic violence in Franklin County.

Call (413) 773-9839

# Massachusetts Justice Project

57 Suffolk Street, Suite 401 Holyoke, MA 01040 (413) 533-2660 or (800) 639-1209

Provides initial intake, advice or brief service in domestic relations cases. Refers eligible clients to legal service programs and pro bono attorneys. VOLUNTEER LAWYER SERVICE

MASSACHUSETTS JUSTICE PROJECT

57 Suffolk Street, Suite 401

Holyoke, MA 01040

(413) 533-2660 or (800) 639-1209

Private attorneys represent qualifying indigent clients on domestic relations issues at no cost. Attorneys will provide advice or full representation.

#### WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LEGAL SERVICES

55 Federal Street Greenfield, MA 01301 For intake, call (413) 533-2660 or (800) 639-1209

Provides advice and direct representation in divorce, assistance to preserve existing child custody arrangements, protection from domestic violence and problems with DSS where there is no appointed counsel. Clinic for no fault divorces.

#### LEGAL ADVOCACY & RESOURCE CENTER

Provides telephone information, pro se assistance and referrals to legal service agencies.

Intake hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Call (800) 342-5297